

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for treating atrioventricular valve regurgitation, comprising:

a cutting arrangement configured to sever at least one chord attaching an atrioventricular leaflet to a internal cardiac muscle;

a positioning catheter configured to position the cutting instrument arrangement proximate the at least one chord; and

a grasping arrangement configured to at least partially constrain a movement of the at least one chord relative to the catheter,

wherein the catheter comprises an opening in which the grasping arrangement constrains the movement of the chord and through which the cutting arrangement ~~can~~ be is provided to sever the at least one chord.

2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cutting instrument comprises a blade having a cutting edge width that is approximately the same size as a diameter of the at least one chord.

3-55 (Canceled)

56. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cutting arrangement is further configured to sever at least one chord while the grasping arrangement is at least partially constraining a movement of the at least one chord.

57. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the grasping arrangement comprises a grasping member configured to slide along a longitudinal direction relative to an extension axis of the catheter.

58. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the grasping member comprises a wire.

59. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein a distal end of the wire is curved.

60. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein a distal end of the wire ~~is configured at an acute angle relative to a surface of the opening~~ comprises a hook-shaped portion.

61. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the wire comprises a shape-memory material.

62. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the grasping arrangement comprises at least one pincer member which is rotatably coupled to the catheter and which is configured to surround at least a portion of the at least one chord.

63. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the grasping arrangement comprises at least two pincer members which are rotatably coupled to the

catheter and which are configured to surround at least a portion of the at least one chord.

64. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a stabilizing arrangement configured to at least partially constrain a motion of the catheter relative to a location within a chamber of a heart and extend longitudinally from the catheter to an apex of a ventricle.

65. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 64, wherein the stabilizing arrangement comprises an extendable member which is configured to contact the location within the chamber.

66. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 65, wherein the stabilizing arrangement comprises a shape memory material.

67. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a second catheter configured to advance the positioning catheter toward the at least one chord.

68. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the grasping arrangement retracts the at least one chord into the catheter.

69. (New) The apparatus of claim 69, wherein the grasping arrangement retracts the at least one chord into the opening of the catheter where the cutting arrangement severs the at least one chord.